

U.S. Application No. 10/057,816, filed January 24, 2002
Attorney Docket No. 14419US01
Amendment dated March 11, 2009
Accompanying Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed March 11, 2009

REMARKS

In the Notice of Allowance mailed January 8, 2009, claims 26-31, 75, 76, 78-89, 91-101, 103-112, 115-126, 128-140 and 142-156 were allowed.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner fully consider any and all information disclosure statements that may be filed concurrently herewith and/or that may be filed before the mailing of a subsequent Office Action (e.g., a notice of allowance) on the merits.

In this timely Amendment accompanying a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), Applicants have added new claims 157-172.

New claims 157-170 depend from previously allowed claims.

New independent claims 171 and 172 recite some of the same or similar elements that were recited in allowed independent claim 138.

It is believed that the present application is in condition for allowance.

Applicants do not necessarily agree or disagree with the Examiner's characterization of the documents made of record, either alone or in combination, or the Examiner's characterization of recited claim elements. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully reserve the right to argue the characterization of the documents of record, either alone or in combination, to argue what is allegedly well known, allegedly obvious or allegedly disclosed, or the characterization of the recited claim elements should that need arise in the future.

Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue, without prejudice, subject matter that has been withdrawn, cancelled and/or amended in a continuing and/or related application.

Applicants do not necessarily agree or disagree with the Examiner's characterization of the alleged support of recited claim elements in particular disclosures or of the alleged effective filing dates of the claimed inventions. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to argue the effective filing dates of the claimed inventions and any other priority issues should that need arise in the future.

With respect to the present application, Applicants hereby rescind any disclaimer of

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claim scope made in the parent application or any predecessor or related application. The Examiner is advised that any previous disclaimer of claim scope, if any, and the alleged prior art that it was made to allegedly avoid, may need to be revisited. Nor should a disclaimer of claim scope, if any, in the present application be read back into any predecessor or related application.

In view of at least the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should anything remain in order to place the present application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, to charge any fee deficiencies or to credit any overpayments to the deposit account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Account No. 13-0017.

Date: March 11, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

/Michael T. Cruz/

Michael T. Cruz

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